

against evil, they can be helped through prayer. And I appreciate your prayers. I appreciate your prayers to help comfort millions of people. I appreciate the fact that you pray for our troops and their families. And I appreciate the prayers that you have directed my way. I feel your prayer. I am—I can't tell you how meaningful they have been, to help Laura and me deal with—do our job. And I can report to you this: that the prayers of the people have affected us, and that being the President has been a joyous experience.

And so I thank you for what you do. I thank you for giving me a chance to come and share some of my thoughts with you. God bless you, and God bless America.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11 a.m. at the Gaylord Opryland Resort and Convention Center. In his remarks, he referred to Ronald L. Harris, chairman, National Religious Broadcasters Executive Committee, who introduced the President; Anthony T. Evans, founder and president, The Urban Alternative; evangelist Rev. William F. Graham, Jr.; Frank Wright, president, National Religious Broadcasters; radio show host Rush Limbaugh; James Dobson, radio show host and founder of Focus on the Family; former Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi of Japan; President Hamid Karzai of Afghanistan; and Gen. David H. Petraeus, USA, commanding general, Multi-National Force—Iraq. The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language transcript of these remarks.

Statement on the Resignation of Admiral William J. “Fox” Fallon as Commander of United States Central Command *March 11, 2008*

Admiral William Fallon has served our Nation with great distinction for 40 years. He is an outstanding sailor, and he made history as the first naval officer to serve as commander of Central Command.

From the Horn of Africa to the streets of Baghdad to the mountains of Afghanistan, the soldiers, sailors, airmen, marines, and coastguardsmen of Central Command are vital to the global war on terror. During his tenure at CENTCOM, Admiral Fallon's job has been to help ensure that America's military forces are ready to meet the threats

of an often troubled region of the world, and he deserves considerable credit for progress that has been made there, especially in Iraq and Afghanistan.

With service in Vietnam and as Vice Chief of Naval Operations, commander of Pacific Command, and many other positions, Admiral Fallon has served this country with honor, determination, and commitment. I thank his wife Mary, who knows that military service involves the whole family, and I wish them all the best as they begin the next chapter in their lives.

Message to the Congress on Continuation of the National Emergency With
Respect to Iran
March 11, 2008

To the Congress of the United States:

The crisis between the United States and Iran constituted by the actions and policies of the Government of Iran that led to the declaration of a national emergency on March 15, 1995, has not been resolved. The actions and policies of the Government of Iran are contrary to the interests of the United States in the region and pose a continuing unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States. Iran remains the world's most active state sponsor of terrorism, and continues to provide lethal support to Lebanese Hizballah, HAMAS, Palestinian Islamic Jihad and numerous other terrorist organizations in the region, as well as to the Taliban in Afghanistan and various Iraqi militant groups. For these reasons, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared with respect to Iran and maintain in force comprehensive sanctions against Iran to respond to this threat.

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent the enclosed notice to the *Federal Register* for publication, stating that the Iran emergency declared on March 15, 1995, is to continue in effect beyond March 15, 2008.

GEORGE W. BUSH

The White House,
March 11, 2008.

NOTE: This message was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on March 12. The notice is listed in Appendix D at the end of this volume.

Remarks to the United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
March 12, 2008

Gracias. Thank you. *Sientese. Gracias mi amigo,* David. Thank you for having me back yet again to speak. This is an opportunity *de practicar mi Espanol.* [Laughter] Of course, a lot of people say I ought to be spending more time practicing my English. [Laughter] But I'm thrilled to be with you.

I really love the entrepreneurial spirit in all communities. And it's evident in the Latino community. As you know, I'm blessed to be a Texan, and I got to see firsthand, as Governor, the unbelievable ini-

tiative and drive of Hispanics who lived in my State. And it's the same thing all across the country. And so part of the purpose for me to come is to thank you for your helping others realize the blessings of owning a small business; thanks for creating jobs, thanks for setting good examples, and thanks for being my friend.

David, as you know, I've been to the Hispanic Chamber, I think this is my third time, but I know a lot of you personally. And this may be my farewell address to the Hispanic Chamber as President, but it's